

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11)

EP 1 211 894 A2

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication:
05.06.2002 Bulletin 2002/23

(51) Int Cl.7: **H04N 5/45**

(21) Application number: **01309843.9**

(22) Date of filing: **22.11.2001**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE TR**
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: **24.11.2000 KR 2000070328**

(71) Applicant: **LG ELECTRONICS INC.**
Seoul (KR)

(72) Inventor: **Cho, Han Kyoung**
Gumi-shi, Kyongsangbuk-do (KR)

(74) Representative:
McLeish, Nicholas Alistair Maxwell et al
Boult Wade Tennant
Verulam Gardens
70 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8BT (GB)

(54) Device and method for processing pip in tv

(57) Device and method for processing a PIP (picture in picture) in a TV, in which a PIP is overlaid on a main picture, to permit watching the PIP as well as the main picture even in a region of the PIP on the same time, the device including a first video processing part for receiving, and processing a main picture video signal into a signal displayable on a screen, a second video processing part for receiving, and processing a sub picture video signal into a signal displayable on a region of the screen, a control part for providing a control signal

according to a users command, and an adjusting part for adjusting a presenting ratio of a video signal from the second video processing part in response to the control signal from the control part, thereby permitting to watch the main picture even in the sub picture because a mix ratio adjustment of the main picture and the sub picture are possible, and to watch a good quality main, and sub pictures because the mix ratio of the main picture and the sub picture can be adjusted, appropriately.

EP 1 211 894 A2

Description

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

[0001] The present invention relates to a TV, and more particularly, to device and method for processing a PIP (picture in picture) in a TV, in which a PIP is overlaid on a main picture, to permit watching the PIP as well as the main picture even in a region of the PIP on the same time.

Background of the Related Art

[0002] In general, the PIP is a picture compressed in vertical and horizontal directions to form a sub-picture, and displayed in a main picture, which may, or may not be on the same channel with the sub-picture.

[0003] A related art device for processing a PIP in a TV will be explained, with reference to the attached drawings. FIG. 1 illustrates a block diagram of a related art device for processing a PIP in a TV.

[0004] Referring to FIG. 1, the related art device for processing a PIP in a TV is provided with a first video decoder 1 for receiving, and decoding a main picture video signal, a second video decoder 2 for receiving, and decoding a sub-picture video signal, a memory 3 for storing the video signal decoded at the second video decoder 2, and a digital/analog converter 4 for converting a digital video signal either from the first video decoder 1 or the memory 3 into an analog video signal.

[0005] When a user selects a PIP menu in the middle of display of the main picture video signal decoded at the first video decoder 1, the sub-picture video signal decoded at the second video decoder 2 is drawn from the memory 3, and displayed on a region of the main picture from the first video decoder 1, with the sub-picture being overlapped on the main picture. Accordingly, the main picture is not displayed in the region the sub-picture is displayed.

[0006] Thus, the related art device for processing a PIP in a TV has a problem in that no main picture is displayed in a region the sub-picture is displayed, unable to watch the main picture in the region once the PIP function is selected.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] Accordingly, the present invention is directed to device and method for processing a PIP (picture in picture) in a TV that addresses one or more of the problems due to limitations and disadvantages of the related art.

[0008] It would be desirable to provide device and method for processing a PIP in a TV, in which a PIP is overlaid on a main picture, to permit watching the PIP as well as the main picture even in a region of the PIP

on the same time.

[0009] Additional features and advantages of the invention will be set forth in the description which follows, and in part will be apparent from the description, or may be learned by practice of the invention. The objectives and other advantages of the invention will be realized and attained by the structure particularly pointed out in the written description and claims hereof as well as the appended drawings.

[0010] To achieve these and other advantages and in accordance with the purpose of the present invention, as embodied and broadly described, the device for processing a PIP in a TV includes a first video processing part for receiving, and processing a main picture video signal into a signal displayable on a screen, a second video processing part for receiving, and processing a sub picture video signal into a signal displayable on a region of the screen, a control part for providing a control signal according to a users command, and an adjusting part for adjusting a presenting ratio of a video signal from the second video processing part in response to the control signal from the control part.

[0011] In another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for processing a PIP in a TV, including the steps of displaying the PIP when a user selects a PIP function, displaying a mix ratio of the displayed PIP and main picture, and adjusting the mix ratio the user desires with reference to the displayed mix ratio.

[0012] It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory and are intended to provide further explanation of the invention as claimed.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0013] The accompanying drawings, which are included to provide a further understanding of the invention and are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification, illustrate embodiments of the invention and together with the description serve to explain the principles of the invention:

[0014] In the drawings:

FIG. 1 illustrates a block diagram of a related art device for processing a PIP in a TV;
FIG. 2 illustrates a block diagram of a device for processing a PIP in a TV in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention;
FIG. 3 illustrates relations of signals from the first format converter and the bit shifter in FIG. 2; and,
FIG. 4 illustrates a flow chart showing the steps of a method for processing a PIP in a TV in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0015] Reference will now be made in detail to the preferred embodiments of the present invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. FIG. 2 illustrates a block diagram of a device for processing a PIP in a TV in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention, FIG. 3 illustrates relations of signals from the first format converter and the bit shifter in FIG. 2, and FIG. 4 illustrates a flow chart showing the steps of a method for processing a PIP in a TV in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

[0016] Referring to FIG. 2, the device for processing a PIP in a TV in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention includes a first video processing part 10 for receiving, and processing a main picture video signal into a signal displayable on a screen, a second video processing part 20 for receiving, and processing a sub picture video signal into a signal displayable on a region of the screen, a control part 40 for providing a control signal according to a users command, an adjusting part 30 for adjusting a presenting ratio of a video signal from the second video processing part 20 in response to the control signal from the control part 40, a switching part 50 for superimposing the video signal from the first video processing part 10 and the video signal from the adjusting part 30 selectively according to the control signal from the control part 40

[0017] The first video processing part 10 includes an analog/digital converter 11 for converting the analog R, G, B video signals to the digital R, G, B video signals, and a first format converter 12 for maintaining outputs of the digital R, G, B signals from the analog/digital converter 11 constant.

[0018] The second video processing part 20 includes a video decoder 21 for receiving a superimposed video signal, and decoding a video signal from the superimposed video signal, a second format converter 22 for converting a format of an output signal of the video decoder 22 into a desired format.

[0019] The adjusting part 30 is a bit shifter for controlling a signal converted at the second format converter 22 to be presented starting from a most significant bit thereof in response to a control signal from the control part 40.

[0020] The operation of the device for processing a PIP in a TV in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention will be explained.

[0021] At first, upon reception of analog R, G, B video signals from a PC at the A/D converter 11, the analog R, G, B video signals are converted into digital R, G, B signals, provided to the first format converter 12, and converted into a signal of a fixed format regardless of received signals.

[0022] The video decoder 21 receives a superimposed video signal through an antenna, decodes, and

provides a video signal to the second format converter 22, which video signal is converted into a required format, provided to the bit shifter 30, and presented starting from the MSB (Most Significant Bit) according to an amount of bits the user intends to select.

[0023] The digital R, G, B video signals from the first format converter 12 and the bit shifter 30 are provided the switching part 30, and superimposed selectively according to a control signal from the control part 40. That is, the R, G, B video signals from the first format converter 12 according to the control signal from the control part 40 are superimposed on the R, G, B video signals from the second video processing part 20, a ratio of bit superimposition of the main picture, and the sub-picture video data can be adjusted.

[0024] Referring to FIG. 3, different from the main picture, the sub-picture data have an output dataline connected to each bit for superimposing on the main picture with reference to the MSB. Accordingly, the superimposition of the main data and the sub data starts from the LSB (Least Significant Bit) on a main dataline according to a ratio of mix with reference to the MSB, and if the ratio of mix is increased, an amount of superimposition of the sub data can be varied.

[0025] That is, if only the MSB from the bit shifter 30 is presented, the MSB is added to the LSB of the main data from the first format converter 12 before the presentation. In this instance, the sub picture signal, i.e., the MSB from the bit shifter 30 is transmitted through the LSB line of the main picture.

[0026] A method for processing a PIP in a TV in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention will be explained, with reference to FIG. 4.

[0027] At first, users selection of the PIP function is determined (S11). Then, as a result of the determination (S11), if the user selects the PIP function, a PIP is displayed, and the present mix ratio of the PIP and the main picture is displayed in an OSD form (S12). If the user intends to change the mix ratio with reference to the OSD form of mix ratio, the mix ratio may be adjusted to a desired mix ratio (S13). On the other hand, if the user intends to watch both pictures as they are, the present mix ratio is stored (S14).

[0028] Thus, when the user intends to watch the main picture and the sub picture on the same time even in a region of the sub picture, the device and method for processing a PIP in a TV of the present invention permits to watch the main picture even in a region the PIP is displayed by automatically adjusting a mix ratio of the region the main picture and the sub picture are to be superimposed, superimposing the pictures according to the users intention.

[0029] As has been explained, the device and method for processing a PIP in a TV of the present invention have the following advantages.

[0030] First, the possibility of mix ratio adjustment of the main picture and the sub picture permits to watch the main picture even in the sub picture.

[0031] Second, the appropriate adjustment of the mix ratio of the main picture and the sub picture permits to watch a good quality main, and sub pictures.

[0032] It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various modifications and variations can be made in the device and method for processing a PIP in a TV of the preferred embodiment without departing from the scope of the invention. Thus, It is intended that the present invention cover the modifications and variations of the embodiment provided they come within the scope of the appended claims.

Claims

1. A device for processing a PIP (picture in picture) in a TV comprising:
 - a first video processing part for receiving, and processing a main picture video signal into a signal displayable on a screen;
 - a second video processing part for receiving, and processing a sub picture video signal into a signal displayable on a region of the screen;
 - a control part for providing a control signal according to a users command; and,
 - an adjusting part for adjusting a presenting ratio of a video signal from the second video processing part in response to the control signal from the control part.
2. A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first video processing part includes:
 - an analog/digital converter for receiving, and converting analog R, G, B video signals into digital R, G, B video signals, and
 - a format converter for maintaining outputs of the digital R, G, B video signals converted at the analog/digital converter constant.
3. A device as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the second video processing part includes:
 - a video decoder 21 for receiving a video signal, and decoding the sub picture video signal from the video signal, and
 - a second format converter for converting an output of the video signal decoded at the video decoder 22 constant.
4. A device as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the adjusting part is a bit shifter.
5. A device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the bit shifter adjusts a difference of superimposing bits of the main picture, and the sub-picture MSB bit data according to the control signal from the control part.
6. A device as claimed in any preceding claim, further comprising a switching part for superimposing the video signal from the first video processing part and the video signal from the bit shifter selectively according to the control signal from the control part.
7. A method for processing a PIP in a TV, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) displaying the PIP when a user selects a PIP function;
 - (b) displaying a mix ratio of the displayed PIP and main picture; and
 - (c) adjusting the mix ratio the user desires with reference to the displayed mix ratio.
8. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the step (b) includes the step of displaying the mix ratio in a form of an OSD.
9. A method as claimed in claim 7 or 8, wherein the step (c) includes the step of adjusting a luminance of a PIP according to a users requirement with reference to the mix ratio displayed in the OSD form, for adjusting the mix ratio of a picture in a region the main picture and the sub picture are superimposed.
10. A method as claimed in claim 7, 8 or 9, wherein the step (c) includes the step of fixing the mix ratio depending on connections between the video signal data from the first video processing part and the video signal from the second video processing part according to a users requirement.

FIG.1
Prior Art

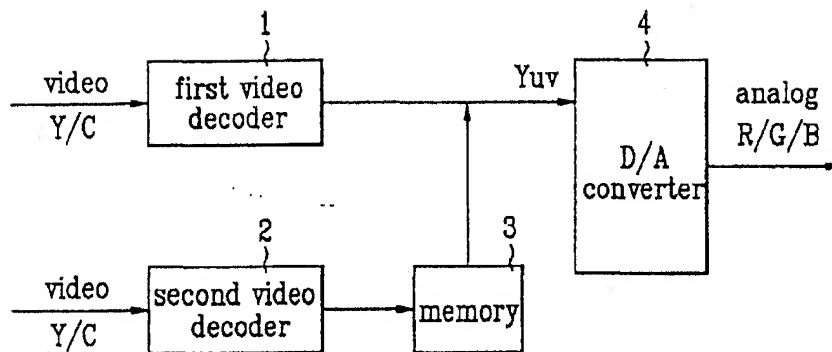


FIG.2

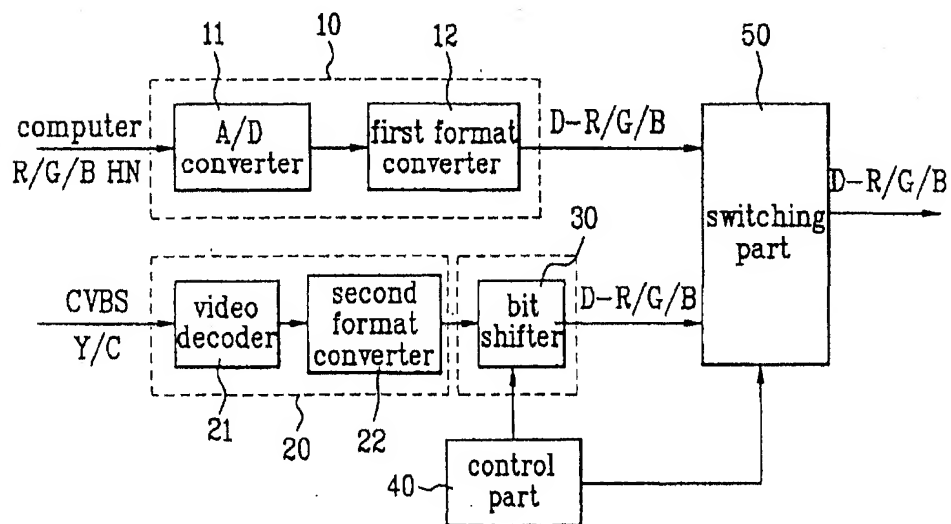


FIG. 3

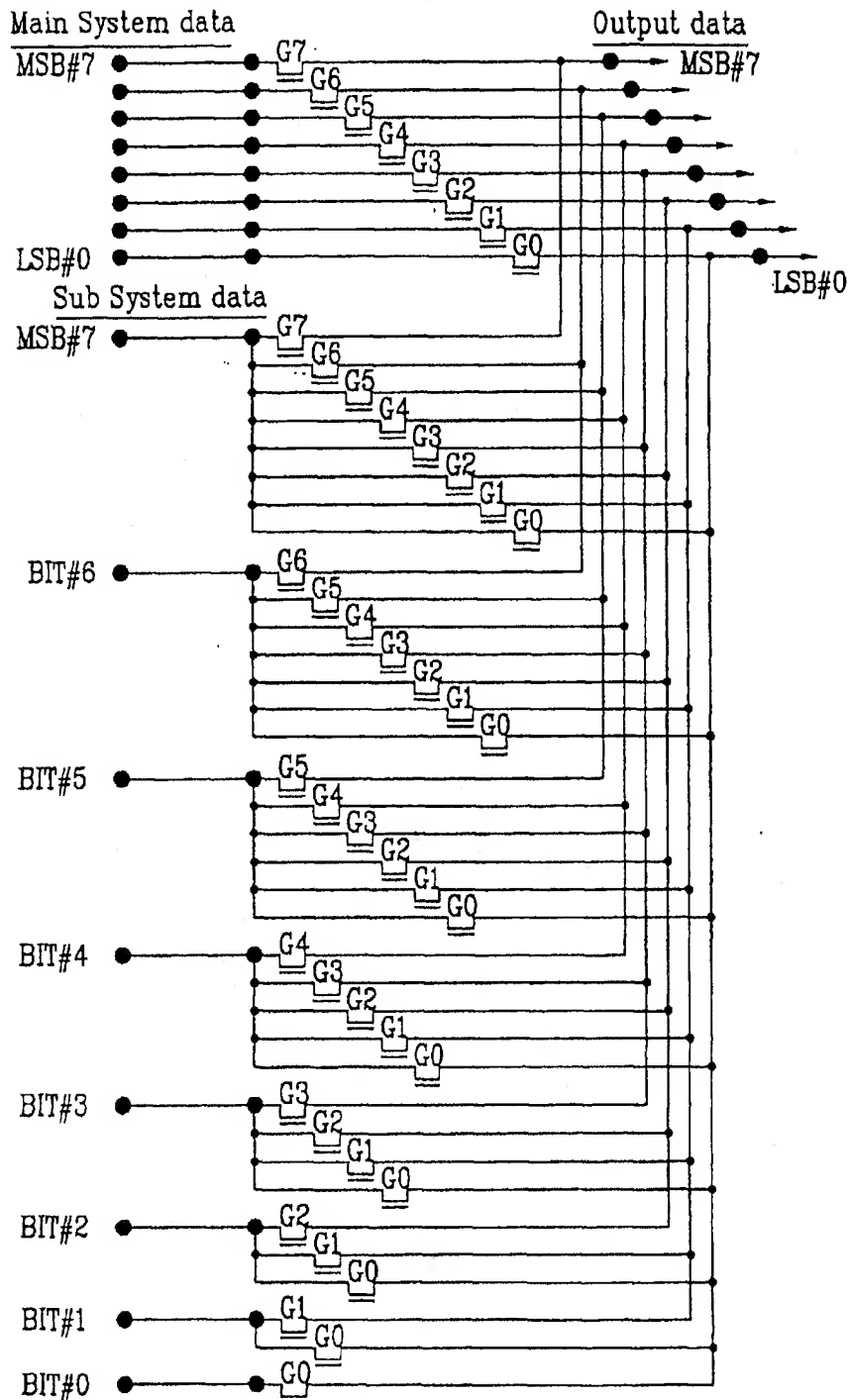


FIG. 4

